

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. The pending claims are subject to the Restriction/Election Requirements imposed in the Office Action mailed July 21, 2006.

**Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 and Election of Species**

Election

The Office Action has required restriction to one of the following groups: Group I (claims 1-12, 15-16, and 18-20) and Group II (claims 13-14 and 17). The Office Action has further required, in the event Group I is elected, further restriction to one of the following subgroups: Subgroup IA (claims 1-12), Subgroup IB (claims 15-16), and Subgroup IC (claims 18-20).

This restriction requirement acknowledges that the subject matter of Groups I and II, as well as Subgroups IA, IB, IC, IIX, and IYY, as identified in the Office Action, constitute separately patentable inventions. MPEP § 806.04(h).

In response, Applicants elect the invention of Group I, Subgroup IA (claims 1-12).

Applicants hereby elect the following species for examination:

The method for making laminated veneer lumber (LVL) from a plurality of wood veneers, as described in Example 4. In particular, the adhesive used was designated “Present Invention Adhesive” and comprised a PF resin-based adhesive mixture (containing 28-40% solids), combined with an AF resin-based cure promoter mixture (containing 33-36% resin solids), in a weight ratio of 80/20 PF resin-based adhesive mixture/AF resin-based cure promoter mixture. The phenol-formaldehyde (PF) component of the adhesive used in each test had  $M_n$ ,  $M_w$ , and  $M_z$  values ranging from about 450-550 g/mol, 2200-3000 g/mol, and 6000-8900 g/mol, respectively.

As described in Example 4, the adhesive was applied to southern yellow pine veneers and laid up as 15-ply LVL, 1.75-inch thick billets. The veneers had a 0.125 inch thickness and a moisture content between 6 and 8%. Press or curing conditions were 340°F (171°C) and 275 psig.

It is believed that claims 1-9, 11, and 12 of Subgroup IA read on this elected species.

Applicants respectfully request, upon a finding that the elected subject matter is allowable, that claims directed to the non-elected subject matter be rejoined.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: August 21, 2006

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